

I believe that the FCC will be making a mistake of staggering proportions by easing the media ownership rules beyond their already fairly liberal limits. In leaving the public airwaves to the mercy of the marketplace, where the biggest and richest will always tend to devour and obliterate competition that can't compete financially (quite apart from any other competitive measures), the Commission will be choking off any hope of diversity on the public's airwaves. It will be the moral equivalent of planting kudzu on the Mall in Washington, then "letting nature take its course." Under the guise of de-regulation, the FCC would be manipulating the market in another way, and effectively pushing the nation toward media group-think as a few (or even one) mega-owner dominate the airwaves and other media. We left "1984" where it belonged: in the past. We shouldn't be wistfully trying to make it come to pass in 2004.

I sincerely hope you can see through the smokescreen created by big media money ("freedom of speech" issues, indeed...), and do what is right for the Public you are supposed to be serving.